

[State Board of Education Meeting – Audio – 7/17/14 Part 1 \(14:05\) Opening, Call to Order, Roll Call, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes and Formal Public Comment](#)

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. The following members of the State Board were present: Dr. Teri Quinn Gray, President, Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President; Gregory B. Coverdale, Jr.; G. Patrick Heffernan, and Barbara B. Rutt. Secretary of Education Mark Murphy was present to serve as the Executive Secretary for the State Board and the Board's Executive Director, Donna Johnson, was also present. Attached is the sign in sheet of attendees for the Board meeting. The agenda was approved as presented. A motion was made by Mr. Melendez to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously by voice vote.

Minutes were distributed prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Coverdale to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 19, 2014 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote.

Four individuals signed up to address the Board for public comment. Steven Fackenthall, a teacher at Richardson Park Learning Center encouraged the State Board to revisit the changes approved last month to the DPAS regulations. He noted the revised regulation changes diminishes the dialogue between teachers and their principal and does not assist struggling teachers to improve. He also asked the State Board to consider having evening meetings so educators could attend.

Jackie Kook stated she was a teacher at Kirk Middle and also asked for changes to the revised DPAS regulations. Ms. Kook discussed a need for the roles and responsibilities of administrators to focus on improving student learning and providing guidance to teachers. She believes the State should focus its attention on components one through four. She believes five to ten minute walk thrus are not effective measures of teacher performance. She noted that the system needed to be fair to all educators and the foundation of the evaluation system needed to be strengthened.

Mike Kempinski, a teacher at Shue Medill, stated that DPAS surveys show that there is less confidence in the DPAS system and that there needed to be more dialogue about the recent revisions to the regulations.

Mike Matthews stated he was a teacher at Richard Park and asked that the State Board host evening meetings. He also asked that the Board revisit the recent vote on changes to the DPAS II regulation stating that the changes would not help in retaining teachers.

[State Board of Education Meeting – Audio – 7/17/14 Part 2 \(34:24\) State Board Business, Update on Literacy Campaign Efforts and Secretary's Report](#)

Board members highlighted their monthly activities. Ms. Johnson highlighted items in her Executive Director's report including an update on the State Board's June 24th workshop with Charlotte Danielson as the key speaker.

Mr. Melendez stated the Budget Committee met before the meeting to review the 2014 final budget report and the draft 2015 budget. The State Board will take action on its budget at its August meeting. He also asked recognized the proposed legislation to form a Financial

Literacy Task Force and asked that the State Board address the issue, form a special committee and take action on it in August.

Ms. Johnson provided an update on the Board's Literacy Campaign and the Board's research and policy briefs. She reviewed the latest policy brief on Licensure and Certification, which is a part of the Literacy Campaign and posted on the website.

Secretary Murphy provided his monthly report to the Board highlighting schools that made academic growth this year on the state assessment. He also updated the Board on the Getting to Zero efforts and stated that all high schools in the State will be participating in College Application Week next year.

[State Board of Education Meeting – Audio – 7/17/14 Part 3 \(27:06\) Election of Vice President, State Board Update on Strategic Plan and Legislative Session Update](#)

Board members elected Jorge Melendez to serve as the State Board's Vice President for the 2014-2015 school year.

Ms. Johnson presented the State Board's Strategic Plan. The plan which was developed two years ago was revised at the Board's recent retreat. The Board also received a legislative update on key education related legislation from the 147th General Assembly.

[State Board of Education Meeting – Audio – 7/17/14 Part 4 \(:31\) Break](#)

The Board recessed from 2:13 p.m. to 2:22 p.m.

[State Board of Education Meeting – Audio – 7/17/14 Part 5 \(1:42:10\) State Assessment Summary Results, DCAS and DCAS-Alt1 for Math and ELA, DCAS Science, Social Studies and End of Course Assessments](#)

Brian M. Touchette, Director, Office of Assessment, presented the DCAS and DCAS-Alt 1 annual state summary results of the Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Assessments. The Board also received an overview of the summary results of the DCAS end-of-course results. Accompanying Mr. Touchette in the presentation was Christopher Ruskowski, Chief Officer, Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Unit. Results show that students statewide have sustained past gains, with some variations in student progress by grade and subject, while more students met their individual growth targets than last year. Results for DCAS-Alt 1 showed increases in student learning in all subjects tested. DCAS-Alt 1 is administered to students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. This was the last year for students to take the DCAS in reading and math. In 2015, the Smarter ELA (English/language arts) and Smarter Mathematics assessments will replace DCAS in those subjects. DCAS will continue for science and social studies as will the DCAS-Alt.

The Board recessed from 4:04 p.m. to 4:16 p.m.

[State Board of Education Meeting – Audio – 7/17/14 Part 6 \(42:33\) Department Regulations and Charter Schools](#)

Dr. Susan Haberstroh and Tina Shockley presented the regulations for the Department.

Regulation 505 High School Graduation Requirements and Diplomas. The amendments include requiring an advisement process to the student success planning, modifications to definitions, revising the date for which diplomas may be awarded to the previous graduating class, and addressing students in the custody of the Department of Services for Children, Youth & Their Families (“DSCYF”). Comments were received from the State Council, the Governor’s Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens and the Center for Justice and the comments were addressed. The Secretary seeks the consent of the State Board to amend 14 Delaware Administration Code, Section 505 pertaining to High School Graduation Requirements and Diplomas. A motion was made by Mrs. Rutt to consent to the amendment of Regulation 505. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heffernan and carried unanimously by voice vote. The Board signed the appropriate Order.

Regulation 930, Supportive Instruction was for the Board’s information as it only requires the approval of the Secretary of Education.

Jennifer Nagourney, Director of the Charter School Office, provided the Board with the recently revised mission of the Charter School Office and its core values. She provided a timeline for the New Moyer Academy modification and noted that all reporting requirements for La Academia’s probation have been met for June and July. The Board also received an update on the compliance monitoring of all charter schools.

Gateway Performance Agreement. Charter schools are required to develop Performance Agreements that are aligned with the requirements in 14 DE Admin. Code 275. Gateway Lab School has submitted a Performance Agreement for approval by the Secretary with the assent of the State Board of Education. The agreement was approved by the school in October but it was not presented to the State Board due to the school’s modification. It was noted that the school is up for renewal this Fall. There was discussion that the renewal would be based on the school’s current data. Secretary Murphy approved the Performance Agreement and asked for the Board’s assent. A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan that based on the review of the record and consideration of the Secretary’s approval, the Board assents to the approval of the application modification as recommended by the Secretary. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Rutt and carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Dr. Gray, Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Melendez, Mrs. Rutt. Nays: Mr. Coverdale.

Formal Review – Moyer Academic Institute. Ms. Nagourney stated that unacceptable academic performance was noted in the performance data for the 2013-2014 school year. Other concerns included appropriate strategies to accommodate the needs of at-risk students and those needing special education services; educational program; school discipline; attendance; student assessment; economic viability; staff credentialing; and financial and administrative operations. Secretary Murphy asked for the Board’s assent to place the school on formal review. The Secretary seeks the consent of the State Board to place the Maurice J. Moyer Academic Institute on formal review outlined in his request. A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan that based on the consideration of the Secretary’s recommendation, the Board consents to placing the Maurice J. Moyer Academic Institute on formal review. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Rutt and carried unanimously by voice vote.

Dr. Gray noted that there were no items to present from the Professional Standards Board.

[State Board of Education Meeting – Audio – 7/17/14 Part 7 \(:39\) Appeals \(Enter into Executive Session\)](#)

J.H-W. v. New Castle County Vo-Tech (2014-02)

A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan that the State Board go into Executive Session for the purposes of considering this student appeal matter and the student's pupil file. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote. The Board entered into Executive Session at 4:58 p.m.

The Board returned to open session on a motion by Mr. Heffernan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote. The Board returned to open session at 5:08 p.m.

[State Board of Education Meeting – Audio – 7/17/14 Part 8 \(3:58\) Appeals, Information Items and Adjournment](#)

A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan that having read and considered the record of the proceedings below, including the hearing transcript, any submissions to the hearing officer including exceptions and comments filed by the parties, and the Proposed Order and it appearing the decision is fully supported by the record, free of legal error, and otherwise within the Board's powers, the Proposed Order of the Hearing Officer be accepted and adopted as the Decision and Order of the State Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Rutt and carried unanimously by voice vote. Dr. Gray stated that the State Board adopted the proposed order of the Hearing Officer to affirm the New Castle County Vocational-Technical District Board of Education's decision to expel student J.H.-R. for a period of 180 days with placement in an alternative educational setting during the expulsion period. The Board signed the appropriate Order.

A motion was made by Mr. Coverdale to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Mark T. Murphy, Executive Secretary
and Secretary of Education

**Executive Session
Appeals and Reviews**

Ilona Kirshon, Deputy Attorney General highlighted the appeal item.

Since school disciplinary matters are confidential the Board entered into Executive Session pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* § 10004(b)(7). The motion was made by Mr. Heffernan, seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously. The Board went into Executive Session at 4:58 p.m. The Board discussed the appeal with Ms. Kirshon. The Board returned to open session at 5:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Mark T. Murphy, Executive Secretary
and Secretary of Education